PORNOGRAPHY IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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N.W.T. Advisory Council on the
Status of Women

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INTRODUCTION

In "Equality for Women: A Five Year Plan of Action: 1985-1989", accepted by the Legislative Assembly in June 1985, several actions regarding pornography were given a number one priority. They include the following:

. **"ENCOURAGE COMMUNTIES TO REGULATE PORNOGRAPHY."**

Suggested methods included: moral-suasion, by-laws under the Municipal Act and criminal charges. Towards this end it was suggested that letters be sent to all communities and women's organizations in the N.W.T. describing their powers to implement changes.

. **"LOBBY AGAINST PORNOGRAPHY IN THE MEDIA."**

Suggested methods included: lobbying the federal government for stricter regulations re: distribution of pornographic materials and lobbying for stricter censorship of degrading and violent materials. Toward this end it has been suggested that letters be sent by the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women to federal ministers and M.P.'s.

. **"REGULATIONS OF VIDEOS."**

Suggested methods included: legislation to regulate the sale and rental of videos and legislation to regulate their content and classification as is done with motion pictures. (The Ontario legislation is cited as a guideline).

Prior to establishment of these objectives the issue was discussed in the Legislative Assembly (September 1983) at which time a motion was passed (Motion 8-83 (2): Criminal Code of Canada Amendment) supporting the "strengthening" of the obscenity provisions in section 159(8) of the Criminal Code of Canada to include "degradation of human beings". As well, the issue of pay T.V. was raised and a motion carried (Motion 9-83(2)) supporting federal initiatives to regulate pornography on pay T.V. and recommending public involvement in the establishment of C.R.T.C. guidelines around sex role stereotyping and violence towards women and children.

In June of 1984 the issue of pornography in the N.W.T. was dealt with at some length by the Honourable Dennis Patterson in his submission to the Fraser Committee on Pornography and Prostitution. In this submission recommendations were made to strengthen laws and impose stricter penalties. The submission recommends that legislation be strengthened and enforced through the Municipal Act, Customs Acts and Broadcasting Act. As well, the submission requested that the N.W.T. have input into what standards were acceptable in the north.

In short, the issue of pornography is not a new one in the Northwest Territories. During the initial research for this brief people in smaller communities as well as larger centres were contacted for their opinions and recommendations. These comments reflect the growing awareness and concern of people at the local level regarding the increasingly violent and degrading material which has become readily available in print, and especially video.

This brief is intended as an update on the issue of pornography in the N.W.T. It contains:

- a definition of pornography supported by the N.W.T. Advisory Council on the Status of Women
- a statement about the role of pornography in society
- a statement regarding the impact of pornography on northern culture
- a collection of comments and suggestions made by northerners
- a set of recommendations designed to push forward the already agreed upon actions in the "Five Year Plan of Action"

Definition of Pornography

The N.W.T. Advisory Council on the Status of Women, has considered several definitions of pornography. The following definition best reflects our philosophy:

Pornography is a presentation whether live, simulated, pictoral, filmed or video-taped or otherwise represented, of sexual behaviour in which:

- **participants are coerced, either openly or by implication into participation; or**
- **participants are injured or abused physically or psychologically; or**
- **there is an obvious imbalance of power due to age, sex or the contextual aspects of the presentation; or**
- **the presentation of such behaviour is advocated or endorsed as appropriate for consumers.**

Based on definition by Jillian Riddington, N.A.C. Researcher

The aim, with this definition, is to encourage amongst community members an awareness of the prevalance of pornography in our daily lives. The Fraser Commission has gone to much effort to establish a definition (for inclusion in the Criminal Code) which will aid in the prosecution of those who produce, sell and profit from pornography in our society; our objective is to encourage an awareness about the causes and effects of pornography so that people can begin discussing, and learning about these issues at the community level. From this increased sensitivity communities and families can begin to make decisions regarding the use of pornography which will reflect their own best interests.

The following discussion of pornography, from historical and sociological perspectives, will serve to summarize much of the research, discussion and legislation which has occured in North America.

Understanding Pornography

> **"...it has nothing to do with sex and everything to do with degradation, exploitation, cruelty and violence."** *1

The above statement is a good starting point in a discussion about pornography. Much has been written, stated and demonstrated about the many imbalances of power between, for example: men and women; 'north' and 'south' countries; children and adults; indigenous and colonizing races. We have learned from history that many methods are used by those with power to ensure that they remain in this position of control. Pornography can be one of those tools. As implied in the initial quote, pornography is not about sex. It is about keeping women and children helpless, powerless and exploited through a portrayal of them that says:

- **These people are here for our pleasure.**
- **It's o.k. to hurt and degrade women and children if it turns you on.**
- **Women and children are insatiable sex objects. They expect to be abused and exploited. It makes them feel satisfied to be our pleasure servants.**
- **Incest, female assault and child abuse are the NORMAL activities of a healthy man.**
- **Women are the sexiest when they are helpless, dependent, clinging and naive.**

Pornography does 4 things:

(1) It reflects societies' basic assumptions about women and children; about human relationships; about 'right' and 'wrong'. While we may not all individually use pornography we are part of a society that,

1. Dennis Patterson, Submission to Fraser Committee, June 1984

despite inspiring rhetoric, is based on the values underlying pornography. Pornography is simply the graphic, visual illustration of our fundamental, usually unquestioned, belief in the rightness of personal gain, competition, domination and a hierarchy of power. For example we are all aware of the scene on one of last year's Penthouse magazines in which a woman is seen being forced through a meat grinder. The fact that this image even exists in our society is an indication of our collective tendency towards violent domination of those groups and individuals who are less powerful.

In other words, a society which sanctions and legitimizes greed and arbitrary power will always produce pornography:

> **"What we must show is how pornography operates to flood sexual fantasy and desire with SEXISM... There is not much point in trying to ban pornography if the desire for it is constantly recreated in our culture."** *2

(2) Pornography reinforces and teaches individuals the rules of how to get and keep personal and collective power. These rules are numerous. Specifically, in pornography they are:

- **Some people deserve and enjoy abusive treatment.**
- **One can only feel sexually satisfied if someone else has less power in the relationship.**
- **Children do not have a right to decide what is best for them.**
- **Women and children are naturally passive. Men are naturally agressive and powerful.**

If these points are valid, one begins to see the basically restrictive nature of pornography. Not only does it exploit in the ways listed above, it negates any expression of sexuality (whether physical or otherwise) that doesn't fall within its limited boundaries. In this way sexual pornography teaches us to assume not only that certain kinds of sexual expression (i.e. male dominated) are acceptable, but also that there are such things as "natural, overwhelming drives" and

2. Mariana Velverde, Pornography, No Safe Plance, Violence Against Women and Children, the Women's Press, Toronto, 1985

"true needs". The implication is that these "needs" can only be met through the kind of behavior portrayed in pornography.

In short pornography is a tool like incest, rape and assault which controls women, inhibits their rights and ensures dominance of one group in society over another.

(3) Pornography also serves another, less obvious function. It allows society to pin the blame for sex crimes (rape, sexual harassment) on the existence in our society of a "perverted" minority whose "seedy" lives include a plethora of pornographic supplies. We can then safely say that these crimes only reflect the perversions of the "low life" people with "warped minds". Pornography, by its existence, allows us to ignore the roots of the violence which grow from the acceptance of male privilege.

As long as economic power and decision making remain the perogative of a minority of privileged people we will have pornography. However, the violence and obscenity so obvious in pornography draws attention away from the real origins of obscene violence as outlined here.

(4) Finally, pornography in convoluting sexuality and denying humanity robs individuals of the opportunity to develop a natural healthy sexuality of their own choosing. There is a tendency, because of the plethora of pornographic images, to assume that sexuality is this or that sexual activity. This barrage of powerful images instill feelings of personal failure, inadequacy and fear that lead to further confusion, psychic and physical violence. We need ways to encourage individual accepatnce, beauty, mutuality - not to mention subtlety and caring.

"Porn is anti-sex." ***3**

<u>Pornography and Northern Cultures</u>

Pornography is one of the 'entertainments' substituted in the place of

3. Gloria Steinem

traditional culture. While it can be argued that no culture is free from abusive individuals, western culture is one, among many cultures, which needs all its members to assume an aggressive personal stance in order to survive. Aggressive male impersonality is the 'holy of holies' in western culture. This is the standard of behavior which men, and now women, are raised to emulate. So pornography is useful in both eroding aboriginal culture and teaching the behavior that is necessary for the 'personal gain' ethic to survive. This corrosive effect is taking its toll on northern people. The following are a variety of the concerns expressed by northerners:

- **Due to video movies, there is a wrong image of women as to how they should be treated.**

- **Children have wide access to video movies because there is no age restriction in most communities.**

- **Hard core video films and magazines which depict incest and violence are being obtained.**

- **Children or young people are tempted to try acting what they have seen in video movies.**

- **Sexual assault on women has increased since the video movies have been readily available.**

- **Women do not feel confident in themselves when they feel they are visualized as the women seen in pornographic materials.**

- **One video distributer in the Northwest Territories is open 24 hours a day; the children watch video movies all night long and are often sent to get video movies.**

- **Our community has a scrambler so we are able to regulate our viewing. There have been shows we felt should not have been shown; they aired on Cinemax.**

. There is strict control of video rental movies in one other community; however, one can walk into a bookstore and the magazines are readily available and accessible to children. They feel bands should have control of what goes into their community.

. Anybody can rent video movies and we feel sexual assault is increasing in the north as a result.

. Blue movies are shown during prime time and also children under 12 years of age are watching pornographic movies.

. The movie rating should be made known to the children and adults so that they know what to watch or what not to watch.

. Anybody has access to video movies - restricted or otherwise. There is no control as to what people watch. Cinemax does show x-rated movies during prime time. There have been instances where hard core materials were ordered, then taped, then were rented out. Why are pornographic materials available when the intention is to exploit women?

. Due to ongoing changes in store management we women have formed a group to regulate pornographic magazines in the stores.

. Education is needed to make people aware of the implications of pornography.

. How can we get rid of HBO and Cinemax?

. Some people have gone to the RCMP - however

they can't do anything about it. *4

In the north there is a unique challenge to create a quality of life sensitive to individual and collective rights. Television, movies and magazines as 'entertainment' formats erode the emphasis on participatory or collective entertainment. Individuals are put in a passive position and then fed information/entertainment which, in many instances besides pornography, encourages sexism, racism and a weakening of the cultural fabric. All this creates tremendous confusion and discouragement in young people and adults. When these mediums are used for pornography they add insult to injury. Not only then is the medium for entertainment destructive, but the messages of violence and inhumanity overwhelm people with hopelessness, confusion and anger.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper has intentionally pointed out the politics of pornography. In the long run only a re-ordering of societal values will change the situation. In this sense, the legitimizing of native culture and language goes a long way to combating pornography. As well, it is essential that there be an acceptance of women choosing their own role in society with a focus on their human rights and potential. As long as people are individually and collectively powerless to shape their own lives there will be pornography and a host of other social problems. With this premise and the Five Year Plan of Action as the starting point we would like to make the following recommendations:

. **INFORMATION**

That each community and all women's groups in the N.W.T. receive updated (since the Fraser Report and recent proposed Bills C-113 and C-114) information regarding:

1. Federal Law
   Territorial Law
   Municipal Law
   ] - Regarding Pornography

4. These comments were made by individuals during the initial research for this paper by the N.W.T. Advisory Council on the Status of Women in November and December, 1985

2. The politics of pornography and its effects on the public.

3. Methods of effecting change, including methods that have been fruitful elsewhere. These methods should include lobbying techniques, educational programs, by-law enforcement. (Samples of effective lobbying programs are included in Appendix 2)

4. Copies of the proposed N.W.T. Human Rights Code and information regarding its enforcement.

5. The Canadian Charter of Rights and information regarding its enforcement.

. LOBBYING

That each community take charge of regulating the pornographic material in their community. This could involve:

. lobbying the federal government, for stricter regulations in distribution and censorship and,

. legislation to regulate the sale and rental of videos as well as their content and classification

. TELEVISION AND VIDEOS

That each community come to a decision regarding the acceptable content of television shows including HBO and Cinemax and take appropriate steps to enact their decisions at the local level.

Video films are not classified under the Motion Pictures Act. It is left to the retailer to decide who is allowed rental. They could be classified as family, parental guidance, adult accompanied or restricted. The Classification Board would meet the community standards.

Communities can find out from the CRTC if a station has a licence to broadcast. If licensed, the community can decide to discontinue its showing. If unlicensed it should be reported to the Federal Department of Communication.

. **MAGAZINES**

That each community decide on suitable magazine content for their community and take appropriate steps for the enactment of any changes.

In many stores magazines are high enough that they can't be reached by young children. However, underage teens can reach them and older teens can give them out. If communities decide that they do want these magazines available they could be kept separately or placed in envelopes.

. **HARD CORE VIDEOS AND MAGAZINES**

Hard core pornographic videos and magazines are crossing into Canada from the United States and reaching settlements in the north. Hard core videos are being duplicated and rented out. Communities need to decide if they want these materials in their town. If not, it is useful to lobby the federal government for stricter restrictions at the Canadian border and higher penalties for abusers of the law. (See proposed Bills C-113 and C-114)

. **LIFE STYLE EDUCATION**

That each community enact educational programs (both inside and outside the school system) that will encourage a consciousness of human rights and human potential. 'Life Style' courses can cover a wide variety of topics and activities including: healthy sexuality, participatory and collective leisure options, career planning, child rearing, birth control, political awareness, etc. The topics could be decided by the whole community including the L.E.A., the Health Committee and the Band/Hamlet Council. Various individuals could be involved in designing and leading the course.

APPENDIX 1

Community Contacts: Summary of Information

This information was gathered during initial research for this paper by the N.W.T. Women's Secretariat in November and December 1985. Responses were made according to a series of questions:

1. Do you see pornography as a problem in your community?
2. What effect is it having?
3. Do you feel we need to change the situation?
4. What do you think we can do?

These questions were asked of women's groups, radio stations, band councils, municipal councils, store owners, social service/education professionals and community health personnel.

Fort McPherson:

- Concerned over pornographic movies shown to the kids
- Blue movies are being shown to the kids - Cinemax
- Children under 12 are watching pornographic movies
- Feel kids are vulnerable: they cannot differentiate from what is real and what is fantasy
- Kids feel after watching a movie, "If they are doing it down south, why can't we do it here". They don't know what is real and what is fantasy. For example: somebody was cut with a glass because they saw a picture of a woman who got cut up with a glass.

Recommendations

- Parental awareness
- Tighter control of video movies
- Awareness of cheaper versions of crude magazines
- Discretion of materials that are available
- Blue movies should be shown after 10:00 p.m. (As it is now, blue movies are shown starting 8:00 at night - this is prime time.)

Rankin Inlet:

- Children are often sent to pick up video movies
- Young children are often watching pornographic movies
- Angry about the access children have to video movies
- Children are up late at nights watching video movies
- There is no restrictions as to children obtaining movies
- There are three outlets in Rankin Inlet who supply video movies
- Magazines - there are no more being sold in the stores since women took action, but presently not too sure of their availability
- Women's response - they do not like to be visualized naked
- Pornographic material is in strong demand in Rankin Inlet

Eskimo Point:

No problems as far as video tapes or magazines, however, the residents of Eskimo Point raised their concerns regarding Cinemax and HBO, because of the type of films that were shown - they went to the RCMP and they were told they cannot do anything because there is nothing in the criminal code which gives them the power to do so - they are still angry about it, however, they have not heard anything in over a year regarding their concern.

Frobisher Bay:

- There is a tighter control of magazines that are available now since the women took action
- Kids have a wide access to video movies, there is no restriction
- Magazines - there are three companies who make the magazine available although the magazines are fairly high on the shelves now. There are still children ages 12-15 who look at the magazines in the stores
- Impact - there is a wrong impression being created as to how women should be treated, due to video movies
- Young women are being portrayed as victims of violence
- Hard core materials are ordered through mail, these materials include info on incest and violence
- Baffin Regional Council raised concerns on pornography

- Many women want to see age restrictions or even complete bans on some of the material
- Some communities have noticed young men getting more aggressive with women since the videos came into their community
- Shows women being easy victims of physical and sexual assault: it promotes hatred of women

Baker Lake:

- At the municipal level, there is a good control
- There are no outlets in Baker Lake who sell pornographic material
- Baker Lake does have Cinemax and HBO, however, they have a scrambler and they control the viewing themselves. (There have been movies shown that should not have been shown.)
- Baker Lake gets MTO, Cinemax and HBO

Cambridge Bay:

- There are pornographic materials but they are placed high on the rack
- Video movies are controlled by the local game hall; there are a lot of restricted materials which can easily be obtained by young people. Videos which include "suggestive" materials are obtained by children
- Suggested they should perhaps be in a different classification
- There are "sexual acts" done by children after they've seen the acts on the video

Inuvik:

- One can walk into a bookstore and the magazines are readily available
- Magazines are accessible to children
- Church did raise concerns about the availability and the easy accessibility to the children
- Playboy video movies are available but not hard core videos; however, hard core video tapes are easy to get by ordering
- There is a strict control of T.V. video rental movies

Spence Bay:

- Anybody can rent a video
- Feel sexual assault is increasing in the north
- There are no magazines available in the stores, except for those who subscribe
- Sexual assault, might be related to what is watched on T.V. and video
- They recommend that there should be control of adult movies

Igloolik:

- Would like to see a tighter control of pornographic video and magazines
- These materials are too available
- There is tighter control but some communities do not have a tight control

Hay River:

- Anybody has access to video movies restricted or otherwise
- Cinemax, there is no control as to what people watch, x-rated movies are shown. It is hard to control the children watching the movies because it's there
- The magazines are located high
- X-rated movies were available behind the counter (the shop is closed now)
- People order hard core movies then the people tape them and rent out what they've taped
- Feels there is too much core material available because in the smaller communities, the children and people are watching the movies
- Bothered by amount of violence shown on the television. Violent shows are just as destructive as the pornographic material
- Parents should discuss the shows their children are watching
- Pornography exploits women
- Hay River, blue movies are ordered from Yellowknife
- Pornographic materials exploits women, so why are they available

Recommendations

. There should be federal control around what goes into the communities

Fort Smith:

. T.V. violence is just as destructive as pornography
. Concern is over what comes on T.V., HBO, etc.
. There is really no concern about magazines because of the action taken by the residents, very little on public display but there are still 12 year olds looking at them

Yellowknife:

Mental Health Association

. Video movies are a concern
. Parents are not educated
. The children are acting out what they see on television, video
. For example; at bathroom time and swim time, the questions asked by the children are now "from normal questions to bizzare questions"
. Are parents controlling what is being watched by children?

RCMP

. Obscenity - they can do something about it under the law. Pornography - they cannot do anything about it
. There are no known cases in NWT of crime resulting from videos
. Store managers or owners do not have to cover their magazines, however, Sutherland's Drug Store did so voluntarily
. In Yellowknife, triple x-rated movies are placed in another room where they can only be obtained by adults
. Pornography - explicit description or exhibition of sexual activity in literature, films, etc., intended to stimulate erotic feelings
. Obscene - indecent, (grossly or repulsively so) lewd (tending to deprave or corrupt); morally repugnant (repulsive, loathsome.)

Local Government

- A strong believer in educating people about pornographic material
- There should be awareness made to the children, and everybody so that people are taught the difference between "good" literature and "trashy" literature (Awareness is what is going to get the people to realize the difference)
- Movie ratings should be made known to the children and the people so that they know what to watch and what not to watch
- Pornography awareness should be taught right at school by the teachers
- There is a lack of better quality shows but a lot of trash. Also lack of good quality books in school

APPENDIX 2

How to Fight Pornography

A) Educate Yourself

1. Inspect the magazines at the local store.
2. Rent some video tapes. Force yourself to watch them.
3. Buy the x-rated Video Catalogue if it's available. The index alone is educational.
4. Read and make copies of section 159 of the Criminal Code.
5. Acquaint yourself with the basic research on pornography. Jillian Ridington's paper contains an excellent summary. The Women's Resource Centre at the Calgary YWCA (320 - 5th Avenue, S.E., Calgary, Alberta T2G 0E5) has an extensive file on Pornography containing aritcles, newsletters, briefs, and research, which is available for public reading. The NWT Women's Secretariat also has a wide variety of information on pornography (920-8775).

B) Educate Your Family

1. Talk to your spouse, children, parents, sisters and brothers about the offensive material you see around you. Tell them how it makes you feel as a woman, parent or responsible citizen. Ask for their support in your effort to speak out against pornography.
2. If your children have come into contact with pornography, they may be troubled by what they have seen or heard. discuss it with them. Communicate your values about sex to the child.
3. If you come across pornography in your son's room, don't over-react, but don't ignore it either. (We must teach tomorrow's adults that mature men and women share love and respect, not degradation and hurt.) Discuss the material with him/her - make it a learning experience.

C) Educate Others

1. Talk to your friends about pornography.

2. Write down the plots of the video tapes, avoiding editorial comment, sticking to the action and a few crucial phrases of dialogue. Copy for distribution.
3. Make your own video tape of the offensive sections of the films you've seen. For now, stick to actionable material according to the Criminal Code.
4. Borrow films from the National Film Board (i.e., "Not a Love Story" and "Killing Us Softly") or have a Media Watch representative show "Images Of Women" (Media Watch Head Office: 209-636 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1G2). Use your scenarios and videos/movies to tell community groups what is out there and why you object.
5. Write articles, letters to the editors, pamphlets; use buttons, bumper stickers.
6. Go on open-line radio shows, but role play questions and answers first.
7. Speak to your L.E.A. about incorporating workshops on mutual, non-coercive and joyous sexuality into sex education courses.

D) Lobby for Better Law Enforcement

If while you were educating yourself, you found material that contravened the Criminal Code:

1. Talk about it with your local police officer. Make complaints in writing if required. Mention the contravention of the Code. Complaints establish community standards. If you don't complain, there will be no action.
2. The police will view and recommend to the crown counsel for prosecution or decide otherwise. Ask for the decision in writing from the person who made it.
3. If you are not satisfied with the decision or the explanation, complain to the N.W.T. Minister of Justice or the federal Attorney-General whose responsibility it is to enforce the Criminal Code.
4. If you should get a charge laid, pack the court. Let the judge know in this way that women know that hate propaganda is directed against them.
5. Encourage the courts to impose the maximum fines for distribution of pornographic materials. Organize a general boycott of the business in question until all the material is removed.

E) Lobby for Better Laws

You will see films that are offensive but not actionable under the Criminal Code. All commercial products need regulation.

1. Bring your dissatisfaction to the attention of your M.P., the Minister of Justice, the Minister for the Status of Women, and local politicians. Negative sex education is, after all, a community issue.

2. Any letter written is better than no letter at all. Write a letter to:

   a) Federal Authorities re: (no postage required)

      Changes to the Criminal Code:

      Hon. R. Natyshyn
      Minister of Justice
      House of Commons
      Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

      Changes to the Broadcast Act demanding new regulations prohibiting pornography and sexual stereotyping as a condition of granting pay T.V. licenses: (no postage required)

      Hon. B. MacDonald
      Minister of Communication
      House of Commons
      Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

   b) Enforcement of federal laws regulating obscene materials:

      Your MLA

      Hon. N. Sibbeston
      Government Leader

      Hon. M. Ballantyne
      Minister of Justice

Hon. R. Pedersen
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

c) Local Authorities re:

Enactment of by-laws regulating the display of pornography, sale to minors, and licensing of stores selling the material:

Your Band Office, Hamlet Council, or Municipal Council
Your L.E.A.

3. Network with other groups, concentrating on what you can agree on, so that when you lobby for better laws, you have broad support.

a) Lori Egger, Alberta Representative, Media Watch
224, MacEwan Glen Place N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
Phone: (403) 275-9817

b) NWT Women's Secretariat and the
Advisory Council on the Status of Women
Box 1320
Government of the N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9

c) Native Women's Association of the NWT
Box 2321
Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2P7

d) Canadian Coalition Against Media Pornography
Box 1065, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R1

e) Inuit Women's Committee
Inuit Tapirisat of Canada
176 Gloucester Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0A6

F) Direct Action

This may be the most effective of all and we all have the time: Don't just fume...act now!

1. Refuse to have the stuff in you home; tell your neighbours what you think when they show these films at their parties.
2. Confront proprietors and merchants directly; phone and write T.V. stations and advertisers.
3. Find a way to honour those who refuse pornography profits.
4. Consider embarassing customers.
5. Picket and march to get media attention.
6. Get Media Watch forms through the N.W.T. Women's Secretariat. Distribute and use them.
7. Consider a poster or ad campaign. Be creative!

APPENDIX 3

Research Data: Canadian Coalition Against Media Pornography

General Facts:

1. Sales from pornographic material is now estimated to be 10 billion dollars per year in North America.

2. In Canada, the number of monthly pornographic magazines available has risen from 30 different titles in 1965 to more than 200 in 1983. (Audit Bureau of Circulation).

3. In Canada, as of 1980, revenue from only 12 major pornographic magazines was over 41 million dollars, indicating that total sales may be more than double that figure. These figures are exclusive of sales from pocket books and videotapes. (Audit Bureau of Circulation). Pornographic magazines have a wider circulation than Time and Newsweek combined.

4. There is a marked increase in the number of monthly nationally distributed magazines in Canada in which sex with children and teenagers is being promoted, primarily in text rather than in photographs. As well, in the advertisement sections of these magazines a fair percentage of films, books, videos and magazines offered for sale deal with sex with youths.

5. The LaMarsh Royal Commission on Violence in the Communications Industry of Ontario, concluded that controlled showing of violence led to aggressiveness, and that a steady diet of news and entertainment violence lead to disensitization of violence.

6. There is a marked increase in the use of violence in both hard and soft-core sexual material in the past 10 years. Dr. B. Malamuth, UCLA, found a 300% increase in the use of sexual violence in Playboy and Penthouse over the last few years. Sexual violence in Hustler and Penthouse is presented as 'normal' and 'acceptable'.

7. About 400,000 Canadians have home videos and video pornography sales are booming according to industry observers who estimate retail sales to be $1 million weekly. In Toronto alone, video outlets have doubled to 600 in two years. Police have confiscated as obscene 1,000 pornographic tapes valued at $150,000. The tapes were all produced abroad. Customs officials say that they can only block a fraction of the tapes coming into Canada's 600 ports of entry.

8. The National Coalition on Television Violence (USA) found, for the first quarter of 1983, for prime time viewing, that the average number of violent acts shown was a record 9.4 acts per hour. ABC was the worst with 11.4.

   Dr. T. Radecki, psychiatrist at the University of Illinois School of Medicine, reports that this generation of television watchers sees 300 times more murders, 500 times more rapes and 600 times more assaults than did the parent generation.

9. American television networks, viewed by Canadians, show violence occuring 200 times more often than it does in real life. (In 1976, 67% of the top 100 programs viewed by Canadians were American in origin.)

10. Since the mid 1950's, Canadian and American crime and violence has increased 400 - 500% though the youth population, the most violent segment, has increased by only 50%.

    For the past decade, research psychologists have been studying the effects of violent media entertainment, with and without a sexual theme, to determine whether or not a link exists between exposure to these types of images and increased aggressive attitudes and behaviour in real life, particularly toward women.

    According to David Scott, Chairman, Action Group on Media Pornography, research evidence accumulated from over a hundred research centres in Canada, the U.S., England and Australia, indicates overwhelmingly that "violent and aggressive pornography is a direct contributor to violent and aggressive behaviour.